

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method of metering the flow of a hydraulic fluid along at least one friction surface of at least one lamination of a package of neighboring laminations in an engageable and disengageable bypass clutch forming part of a hydrokinetic torque converter wherein a housing confines a pump, a stator and a turbine in addition to the bypass clutch, comprising at least one of a plurality of undertakings including: a first undertaking comprising the steps of supplying hydraulic fluid into the housing and interfering with the flow of fluid between the turbine and an inner side of the housing to thus increase the rate of fluid flow along the at least one lamination; and a second undertaking including the step of reducing resistance to the flow of fluid through the bypass clutch to thus increase the rate of fluid flow along the at least one friction surface of the at least one lamination, wherein the first and second undertakings are performed in different locations of the torque converter and the hydraulic fluid flows in a direction from an inner space between the turbine and the inner side of the housing toward the package of laminations.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of hydrostatically engaging and disengaging the bypass clutch, including subjecting the bypass clutch to the action of a hydrostatic fluid stream.
3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said step of supplying hydraulic fluid includes conveying a stream of hydraulic fluid along a first path extending through the pump, turbine and stator,

and thereafter along a second path between an internal surface of the housing and an external surface of the turbine.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said step of supplying hydraulic fluid includes conveying a stream of hydraulic fluid along a first path extending between an internal surface of the housing an external surface of the turbine and thereafter along a second path extending through the pump, turbine and stator.
5. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of hydrostatically engaging and disengaging the bypass clutch, said resistance reducing step including establishing a path for the flow of fluid between a biasing member and an adjacent lamination in the disengaged condition of the bypass clutch.
6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of regulating ~~at least one of a plurality of parameters of the hydraulic fluid, said parameters including the~~ pressure and the temperature of the fluid.
7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said resistance reducing step includes reducing the pressure of hydraulic fluid by between about 0.1 and 3 bar.
8. (Original) The method of claim 7, where the pressure of hydraulic fluid is reduced between about 0.2 and 1 bar.
9. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said fluid supplying step includes conveying the fluid in the housing at a rate of between about 0.1 liter and 10 liters per minute.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein said rate is between about 0.2 and 1 liter per minute.
11. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of hydrostatically engaging and disengaging the bypass clutch, including conveying through the bypass clutch a discrete fluid stream at a rate and at a pressure such that the clutch is operated with slip.
12. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein the discrete fluid stream is a pulsating stream.
13. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein said operation with slip includes minimizing torsional vibrations in a power train embodying the torque converter.
14. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein at least one of said undertakings includes the step of cooling the bypass clutch.
15. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein at least one of said undertakings includes transmitting torque from a prime mover to an automatic transmission in the power train of a motor vehicle.
16. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein at least one of said undertakings includes transmitting torque from a prime mover to a continuously variable transmission in the power train of a motor vehicle.
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48. (Currently Amended) A method of metering the flow of a hydraulic fluid along at least one friction surface of at least one lamination along of a package of neighboring laminations in an engageable and disengageable bypass clutch forming part of a hydrokinetic torque converter, wherein a housing confines a pump, a stator and a turbine in addition to the bypass clutch, comprising the steps of:
- supplying the hydraulic fluid into the housing;
 - interfering with the flow of the hydraulic fluid between the turbine and an inner side of the housing to thus increase the rate of fluid flow along the at least one lamination; and
 - interfering with the flow of the hydraulic fluid through the bypass clutch and along a radially inner portion of the friction surface of at least one lamination, wherein the at least one lamination includes at least one window to promote flow of the

hydraulic fluid through the clutch and a profile of the at least one lamination and an adjacent member is selected so as to impede the flow rate of the hydraulic fluid through the clutch to a desired extent, the hydraulic fluid flowing in a direction from an inner space between the turbine and the inner side of the housing toward the at least one lamination.